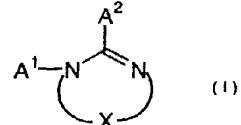


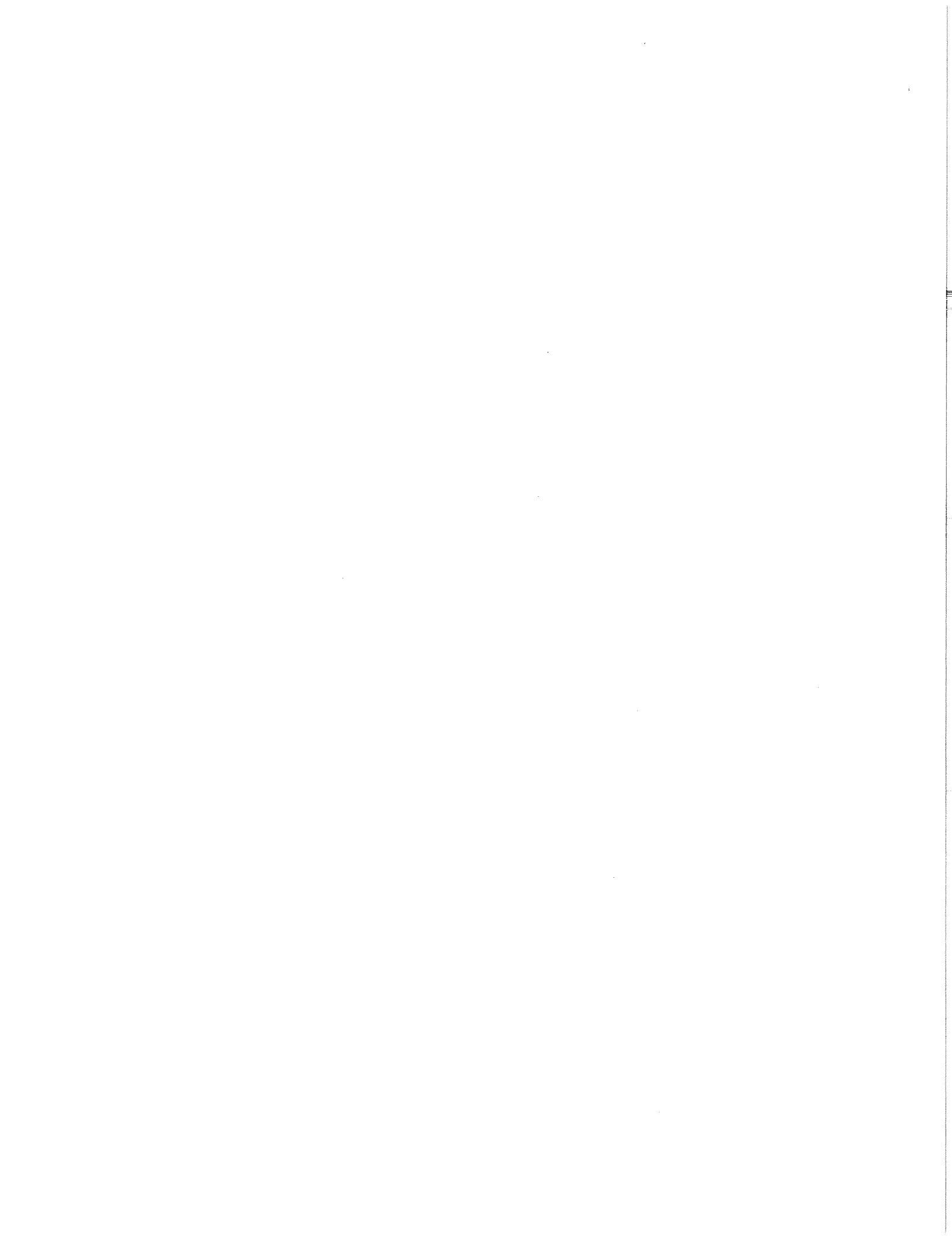
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(19)	 Canadian Intellectual Property Office An Agency of Industry Canada	Office de la Propri,t, Intellectuelle du Canada Un organisme d'Industrie Canada	(11) CA 2 372 673 (40) 01.11.2001 (43) 01.11.2001	(13) A1
(12)				
(21)	2 372 673	(51) Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> :	C07D 401/00	
(22)	20.04.2001	(85)	30.10.2001	
		(86)	PCT/JP01/03378	
		(87)	WO01/81334	
(30)	2000-120976 JP 21.04.2000	(72)	IMOTO, MASAHIRO (JP). IWANAMI, TATSUYA (JP). AKABANE, MINAKO (JP). TANI, YOSHIHIRO (JP).	
(71)	SUNTORY LIMITED, 1-40, Dojimahama 2-chome Kita-ku, Osaka-shi 530-8203, OSAKA, XX (JP).	(74)	SMART & BIGGAR	

(54) COMPOSES AMIDINES CYCLIQUES  
(54) CYCLIC AMIDINE COMPOUNDS

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## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date  
1 November 2001 (01.11.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 01/81334 A2(51) International Patent Classification<sup>2</sup>: C07D 401/00

AKABANE, Minako [JP/JP]; 1-37-201, Sojiji 1-chome, Ibaraki-shi, Osaka 567-0801 (JP). TANI, Yoshihiro [JP/JP]; 9-38, Hoshimi-cho, Ibaraki-shi, Osaka 567-0843 (JP).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/JP01/03378

(74) Agent: KUSAMA, Osamu; KUSAMA PATENT OFFICE, 7F Iwata Bldg., 5-12, Iidabashi 4-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0072 (JP).

(22) International Filing Date: 20 April 2001 (20.04.2001)

(81) Designated States (national): AU, CA, CN, KR, US.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

(26) Publication Language: English

**Published:**  
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

(30) Priority Data:  
2000-120976 21 April 2000 (21.04.2000) JP

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SUNDAY LIMITED [JP/JP]; 1-40, Dojimahama 2-chome, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 530-8203 (JP).

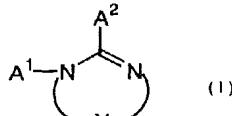
(72) Inventors; and

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(54) Title: CYCLIC AMIDINE COMPOUNDS

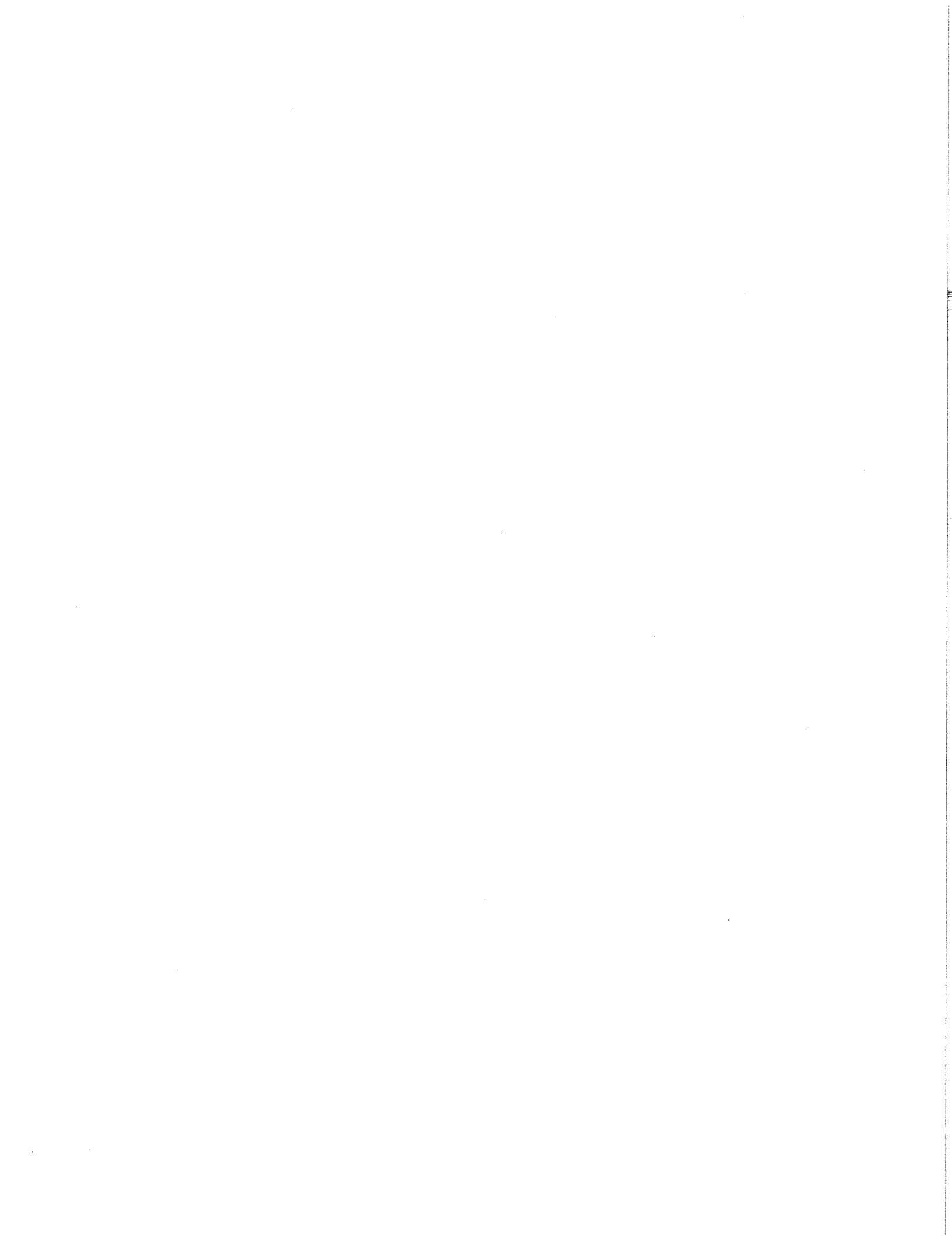


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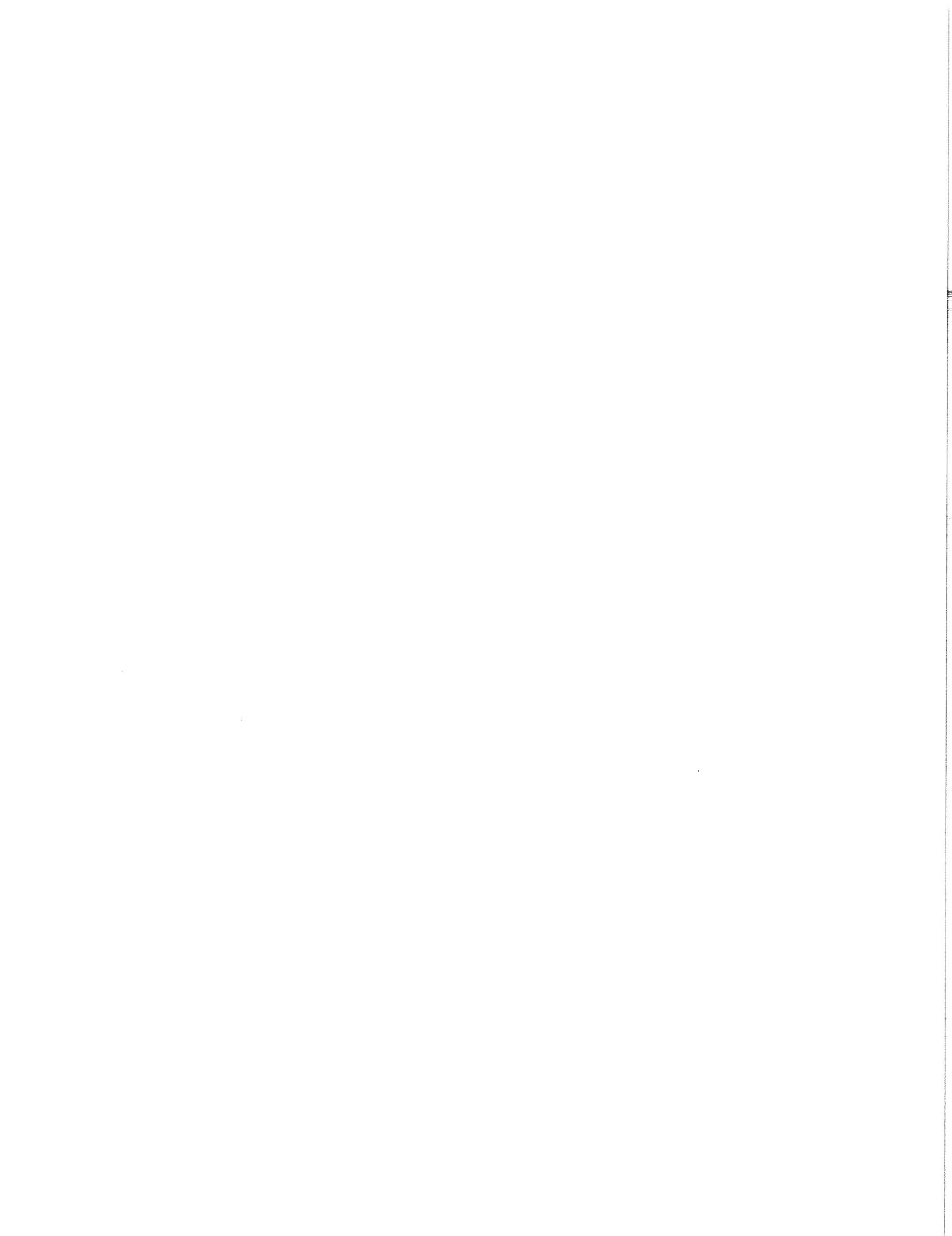
protective effects on neuronal cell death induced by  $\beta$ -amyloid (A $\beta$ ) [Kihara T. et al., *Ann. Neurol.*, 42, 156-163 (1997)]. Recent studies suggest the possibility of nicotine being a remedy for the inflammatory colitis [Sandborn W. J. et al., *Ann. Intern. Med.*, 126, 364 (1997)].

On the other hand, it is acknowledged that in the patients of Alzheimer's disease, the degeneration of acetylcholinergic neurons known to be one of the important nervous systems responsible for cognition such as attention, learning, memory and recognition, is altered and thus nicotinic acetylcholine receptors in the cerebral cortex and hippocampus are drastically decreased [Nordberg A. et al., *J. Neurosci. Res.*, 31, 103-111 (1992)].

It is reported the possibility of the useful treatment for Alzheimer's disease by activating nicotinic acetylcholine receptors to be recovered the acetylcholine nervous systems mechanism by agonists or modulators of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors [Newhouse P. A. et al., *Psychopharmacology*, 95, 171-175 (1988)].

The nicotinic acetylcholine receptors belong to the ion channel neurotransmitter receptors composed of five subunits. That is, agonists such as acetylcholine, nicotine and the like are bound to receptors to activate and open the channels thereof, thus causing the influx of cationic ion such as sodium ion from extracellular to result the cell excitation [Galzi J. L. & Changeux J. P., *Neuropharmacology*, 34, 563-582 (1995)]. The aforementioned agonists such as acetylcholine, nicotine and the like show its effect by binding to the specific site existing in  $\alpha$  subunit so-called agonist binding site.

It is known, on the other hand, that compounds such as galantamine and so on which activate cells by potentiating the effects of acetylcholine, have no agonist effect at nicotinic



nicotine to the patients of Alzheimer's disease, the recoveries of their attention or the short-term memory were observed, and also the symptoms of their disease were improved [Newhouse P. A. et al., *Drugs & Aging*, 11, 206-228 (1997)]. Nevertheless, 5 nicotine also possesses disadvantages such as widely recognized addiction, as well as low bioavailability and severe side effects to the cardiovascular systems.

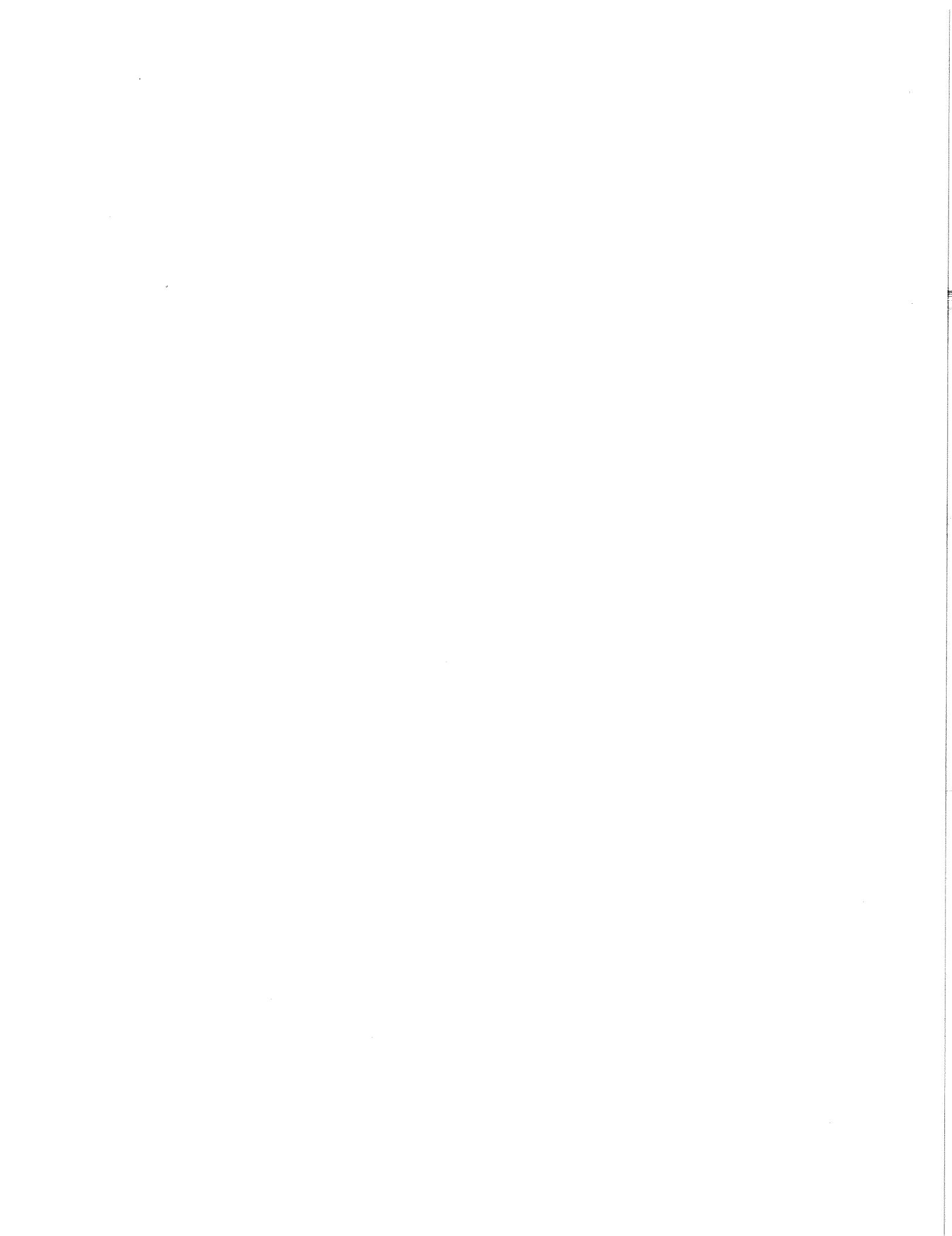
Therefore, there have been great expectation to develop 10 nicotinic acetylcholine receptors agonists or modulators as medicines in place of nicotine which has no addiction, high bioavailability, and less side effects on cardiovascular systems [Maelicke A. & Albuquerque E. X., *Drug Discovery Today*, 1, 53-59 (1996); Holladay M. W. et al., *J. Med. Chem.*, 40, 4169-4194 (1997)].

15 There are some subtypes known as the nicotinic acetylcholine receptors [Shacka J. J. & Robinson S. E. T., *Med. Chem. Res.*, 1996, 444-464], and mainly  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype receptors exist in central nervous systems. Furthermore, there exist  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  (or  $\alpha 1\beta 1\delta$ ) subtype receptors in the neuromuscular junction of 20 motor neurons, and  $\alpha 3\beta 4$  subtype receptors in ganglion of autonomic nervous systems and adrenal.

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30 Therefore, it may be extremely useful as medicines having no side effects to develop compounds which have no affinity at  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype nor  $\alpha 3\beta 4$  subtype receptors, but selectively affects  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype receptors.

In these circumstances, there have been many proposals to

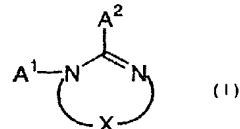


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(19)	 Canadian Intellectual Property Office An Agency of Industry Canada	Office de la Propriété Intellectuelle du Canada Un organisme d'Industrie Canada	(11) CA 2 372 673 (40) 01.11.2001 (43) 01.11.2001	(13) A1
(12)				
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(22)	20.04.2001	(85)	30.10.2001	
		(86)	PCT/JP01/03378	
		(87)	WO01/81334	
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(71)	SUNTORY LIMITED, 1-40, Dojimahama 2-chome Kita-ku, Osaka-shi 530-8203, OSAKA, XX (JP).	(74)	SMART & BIGGAR	

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Canadian  
Intellectual Property  
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An agency of  
Industry Canada

CA 2372673 A1 2001/11/01

(21) 2 372 673

(12) DEMANDE DE BREVET CANADIEN  
CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION

(13) A1

(86) Date de dépôt PCT/PCT Filing Date: 2001/04/20  
(87) Date publication PCT/PCT Publication Date: 2001/11/01  
(85) Entrée phase nationale/National Entry: 2001/10/30  
(86) N° demande PCT/PCT Application No.: JP 2001/003378  
(87) N° publication PCT/PCT Publication No.: 2001/081334  
(30) Priorité/Priority: 2000/04/21 (2000-120976) JP

(51) Cl.Int.<sup>7</sup>/Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup> C07D 401/00

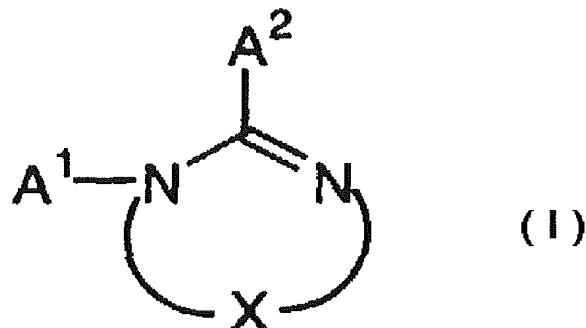
(71) Demandeur/Applicant:  
SUNTORY LIMITED, JP

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TANI, YOSHIHIRO, JP;  
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IMOTO, MASAHIRO, JP

(74) Agent: SMART & BIGGAR

(54) Titre : COMPOSES AMIDINES CYCLIQUES

(54) Title: CYCLIC AMIDINE COMPOUNDS



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

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CIPD

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date  
1 November 2001 (01.11.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 01/81334 A2

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C07D 401/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/JP01/03378

(22) International Filing Date: 20 April 2001 (20.04.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2000-120976 21 April 2000 (21.04.2000) JP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SUNDAY LTD [JP/JP]; 1-40, Dojimahama 2-chome, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 530-8203 (JP).

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## Published:

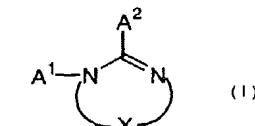
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## DESCRIPTION

## CYCLIC AMIDINE COMPOUNDS

## 5 TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to compounds showing affinity for nicotinic acetylcholine receptors and activating the same. The compounds of the present invention are useful for preventing or treating of neurodegenerative diseases such as 10 Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease, dementia such as cerebrovascular dementia, motor ataxia such as Tourette's syndrome, neurosis during chronic cerebral infarction stage, neuropathy and mental disorder such as anxiety and schizophrenia and cerebral dysfunction caused by cerebral injury.

15

## BACKGROUND ART

It has been widely known that nicotine exerts a wide variety of pharmacological effects. These include, for example, cholinergic nervous activation as the effect on central nervous 20 systems such as facilitation of acetylcholine release [De sarno P. & Giacobini E., *J. Neurosci. Res.*, 22, 194-200 (1984)], and further, activation effect on monoaminergic nervous systems [Levin E. D. & Simon B. B., *Psychopharmacology*, 138, 217-230 (1998)].

25

It has been also reported that nicotine possesses lots of very useful cerebral function improving effects such as increasing cerebral blood flow and glucose uptake rate in brain [Decker M. W. et al., *Life Sci.*, 56, 545-570 (1995)].

30

It has been further reported that nicotine inhibits amyloid formation of  $\beta$ -peptides which is believed to be the cause of neuronal cell death during Alzheimer's disease [Salomon A. R. et al., *Biochemistry*, 35, 13568-13578 (1996)], and have cell

protective effects on neuronal cell death induced by  $\beta$ -amyloid (A $\beta$ ) [Kihara T. et al., *Ann. Neurol.*, 42, 156-163 (1997)]. Recent studies suggest the possibility of nicotine being a remedy for the inflammatory colitis [Sandborn W. J. et al., *Ann. Intern. Med.*, 126, 364 (1997)].

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It is known, on the other hand, that compounds such as galantamine and so on which activate cells by potentiating the effects of acetylcholine, have no agonist effect at nicotinic

acetylcholine receptors directly. These compounds show their effects through allosteric site which is clearly different from the agonist binding sites [Schrattenholz A. et al., *Mol. Pharmacol.*, 49, 1-6 (1996)].

5       Mentioned above, compounds capable to activate nicotinic acetylcholine receptors indirectly are called modulators and it is expected to be the practical medicines for treatment of the various neurological diseases [Lin N. -H & Meyer M. D., *Exp. Opin. Ther. Patents*, 8, 991-1015 (1998)].

10       The terms "agonists" and "modulators" are used in these definitions in the present specification.

15       The nicotinic acetylcholine receptors are believed to participate not only in Alzheimer's disease, but also in neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's disease, and many 20 of the neuroses and psychoses such as dementia, anxiety, schizophrenia and so on [Barrantes F. J., in *The Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor*, ed. Barrantes F. J., Springer, 1997, p175-212; Lena C. & Changeux J. -P., *J. Physiol. (Paris)*, 92, 63-74 (1998)].

25       Especially, since it is known that cerebral blood flow of the patients suffering from cerebrovascular dementia caused by cerebral infarction is decreased [Takagi Shigeharu, *Gendai Iryo*, 28, 1157-1160 (1996); Tachibana H. et al., *J. Gerontol.*, 39, 415-423 (1984)], there seems to be the possibility of agonists of 30 nicotinic acetylcholine receptors or the modulators possessing cerebral blood flow increasing effect to be applied to the medicines in this area of treatment. Furthermore, recent study revealed that agonists of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors and the modulators thereof show analgesic activities [Bannon A. W. et al., *Science*, 279, 77-81 (1998)].

Nicotine itself surely affects as the agonist of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. For example, after administration of

nicotine to the patients of Alzheimer's disease, the recoveries of their attention or the short-term memory were observed, and also the symptoms of their disease were improved [Newhouse P. A. et al., *Drugs & Aging*, 11, 206-228 (1997)]. Nevertheless, 5 nicotine also possesses disadvantages such as widely recognized addiction, as well as low bioavailability and severe side effects to the cardiovascular systems.

Therefore, there have been great expectation to develop 10 nicotinic acetylcholine receptors agonists or modulators as medicines in place of nicotine which has no addiction, high bioavailability, and less side effects on cardiovascular systems [Maelicke A. & Albuquerque E. X., *Drug Discovery Today*, 1, 53-59 (1996); Holladay M. W. et al., *J. Med. Chem.*, 40, 4169-4194 (1997)].

15 There are some subtypes known as the nicotinic acetylcholine receptors [Shacka J. J. & Robinson S. E. T., *Med. Chem. Res.*, 1996, 444-464], and mainly  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype receptors exist in central nervous systems. Furthermore, there exist  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  (or  $\alpha 1\beta 1\delta$ ) subtype receptors in the neuromuscular junction of 20 motor neurons, and  $\alpha 3\beta 4$  subtype receptors in ganglion of autonomic nervous systems and adrenal.

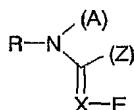
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Therefore, it may be extremely useful as medicines having no side effects to develop compounds which have no affinity at 30  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype nor  $\alpha 3\beta 4$  subtype receptors, but selectively affects  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype receptors.

In these circumstances, there have been many proposals to

develop selective agonists or modulators at nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of central nervous system as practical medicines. These include, for example, the compound such as ABT-418 [Arneric S. P. et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 270, 310-318 5 (1994); Decker M. W. et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 270, 319-328 (1994)], ABT-089 [Sullivan J. P. et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 283, 235-246 (1997); Decker M. W. et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 283, 247-258 (1997)], GTS-21 [Arendash G. W. et al., *Brain Res.*, 674, 252-259 (1995); Briggs C. A. et al., *Pharmacol. 10 Biochem. Behav.*, 57, 231-241 (1997)], RJR-2403 [Bencherif M. et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 279, 1413-1421 (1996); Lippiello P. M. et al., *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 279, 1422-1429 (1996)], SIB-1508Y [Cosford N. D. P. et al., *J. Med. Chem.*, 39, 3235-3237 15 (1996); Lloyd. G. K. et al., *Life Sci.*, 62, 1601-1606 (1995)], SIB-1553A [Lloyd. G. K. et al., *Life Sci.*, 62, 1601-1606 (1995)] and so on.

In European Patent Publication EP679397-A2, substituted amine derivatives represented by the following formula were proposed for the medicines for prevention and treatment of 20 cerebral dysfunction.



in which,

R represents hydrogen, optionally substituted acyl, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl radicals;

25 A represents a monofunctional group of the hydrogen, acyl, alkyl or aryl series or represents a bifunctional group which is linked to the radical Z;

E represents an electron-withdrawing radical;

30 X represents the -CH= or =N- radicals, it being possible for the -CH= radical to be linked to the Z radical

instead of an H atom;  
Z represents a monofunctional group of the alkyl, -O-R, -S-R or -NR<sub>2</sub> series or represents a bifunctional group which is linked to the A radical or the X radical.

5

However, the structure of the compounds disclosed in said patent publication is clearly different from that of the compounds disclosed by the present patent application, and there is no description in the above-mentioned patent publication that 10 these compounds can selectively activate  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors.

On the other hand, it is confirmed that "imidacloprid", as a pesticide, electrophysiologically affects as partial agonist at nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of PC12 cell [Nagata K. et al., 15 *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 285, 731-738 (1998)], and imidacloprid itself or its metabolites and their analogues possess affinity to the nicotinic acetylcholine receptors in mouse brain [Lee Chao S. & Casida E., *Pestic. Biochem. Physiol.*, 58, 77-88 (1997); Tomizawa T. & Casida J. E., *J. Pharmacol.*, 127, 115-122 (1999); 20 Latli B. et al., *J. Med. Chem.*, 42, 2227-2234 (1999)], however, there is no report of the imidacloprid derivatives selectively activating  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. Furthermore, the structure of the imidacloprid itself or its metabolites and their analogues is clearly different from that of the compounds 25 disclosed by the present patent application.

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication Number Hei 10-226684 disclosed [N-(pyridinylmethyl)heterocyclic]ylideneamine compounds represented by the following formula, pharmaceutically acceptable 30 salts and prodrugs thereof.

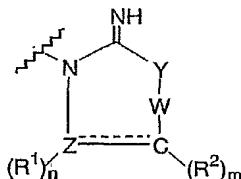


in which,

A represents the -CH(R)-;

5 R<sup>3</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; and

B represents the group of the following formula:



It is disclosed that these compounds possess weak affinity to nicotinic receptors; however, there is no description that 10 these compounds have selective activating effect at  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of central nervous systems and act as agonists or modulators of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. Furthermore, the structure of these compounds is clearly different from that of the compounds disclosed by the 15 present invention.

As mentioned above, there had been many attempts to develop agonists or modulators selectively activating  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of central nervous systems via oral administration, but none were satisfactory.

20

#### DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, the present invention provides therapeutic or preventing agents for treatment of diseases which may be prevented or cured by activating nicotinic acetylcholine 25 receptors, having the capabilities of binding selectively with  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptor of central nervous systems,

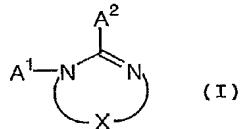
and having no undesirable side effects in cardiovascular systems such as hypertension or tachycardia.

More specifically, the present invention provides medicaments for preventing or treating various diseases, which 5 may be prevented or cured by activating nicotinic acetylcholine receptors, such as dementia, senile dementia, presenile dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, cerebrovascular dementia, AIDS-related dementia, dementia in Down's syndrome, Tourette's syndrome, neurosis during chronic cerebral infarction 10 stage, cerebral dysfunction caused by cerebral injury, anxiety, schizophrenia, depression, Huntington's disease, pain and so on.

Through extensive investigations of researching compounds having the capabilities of binding selectively with  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of central nervous systems, the 15 present inventors discovered that the compounds represented by the formula (I) mentioned below and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof possess high affinity for nicotinic acetylcholine receptors in central nervous systems, and activate said receptors as agonists or modulators.

20

Accordingly, as one aspect of the present invention, it is provided cyclic amidine compounds represented by the following formula (I):



25 wherein:

$A^1$  and  $A^2$  are hydrogen atom, optionally substituted alkyl group; optionally substituted aryl group; or optionally substituted heterocyclic group; and

$X$  is  $-C(R^1, R^2)-C(R^3, R^4)-$ ,  $-C(R^5)=C(R^6)-$ ,  $-C(R^7, R^8)-C(R^9, R^{10})-$

$C(R^{11},R^{12})-$ , or  $-C(R^{13},R^{14})-C(R^{15},R^{16})-NH-$  (wherein,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$ ,  $R^9$ ,  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$ ,  $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  are hydrogen atom; halogen atom; optionally substituted alkyl group; optionally substituted aryl group; or optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

5 or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Still another aspect of the present invention, it is provided activator agents for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors containing cyclic amidine compounds of the formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as active ingredients.

As still further aspect of the present invention, it is provided that the use of cyclic amidine compounds of the formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for treating or preventing of cerebral circulation disease, neurodegenerative disease and the like.

#### BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Examples of the pharmaceutically acceptable salt include an inorganic acid salt such as hydrochloric acid salt, hydrobromic acid salt, sulfuric acid salt, phosphoric acid salt and the like, and an organic acid salt such as fumaric acid salt, maleic acid salt, oxalic acid salt, citric acid salt, tartaric acid salt, malic acid salt, lactic acid salt, succinic acid salt, 25 benzoic acid salt, methanesulfonic acid salt, p-toluenesulfonic acid salt and the like.

The groups represented by " $A^1$ " and " $A^2$ " in the compound of formula (I) are hydrogen atom, optionally substituted alkyl group, optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted heterocyclic group, and preferable examples of said optionally substituted alkyl group include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl and the like.

Suitable substituent of substituted alkyl group may include optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted heterocyclic group, and therefore, examples of said substituted alkyl group include benzyl, (2-pyridyl)methyl, (3-pyridyl)methyl, (2-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-methyl, (6-fluoro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl, (2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl, (6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl, (5-pyrimidyl)methyl, (3-quinolyl)-methyl, (3-furanyl)methyl, (tetrahydro-3-furanyl)-methyl, (3-thienyl)-methyl, (3,5-dimethylisoxazolyl)methyl, 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-ethyl, 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl and the like.

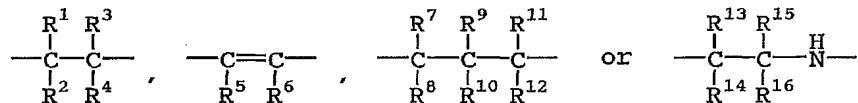
The preferable examples of aryl group of said optionally substituted aryl group represented by "A<sup>1</sup>" and "A<sup>2</sup>" may include phenyl, naphthyl and the like. Suitable substituent of substituted aryl group may include C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> lower alkyl group, hydroxyl group, amino group, halogen atom and the like, and therefore, examples of said substituted aryl group include methylphenyl, hydroxyphenyl, aminophenyl, chlorophenyl, dichlorophenyl and the like.

The term "heterocyclic group" represented by "A<sup>1</sup>" and "A<sup>2</sup>" may be 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic group or condensed heterocyclic group thereof containing the same or different 1 to 3 hetero atom(s) such as sulfur, nitrogen, oxygen atom(s), and examples include thiophene, furan, pyran, pyrrole, pyrazole, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, pyridazine, imidazole, oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, quinoline, isoquinoline, indole, azaindole, tetrahydropyrimidine and the like.

Suitable substituent of substituted heterocyclic group may include C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> lower alkyl, halogen atom and the like, and therefore, examples of said substituted heterocyclic group may be 2-methylpyridine, 6-methylpyridine, 2-chloropyridine, 2-

fluoropyridine, 2-bromopyridine, 3-bromopyridine, 2,3-dichloropyridine, 2-chloropyrimidine, 2-chlorothiazole, 3,5-dimethylisoxazole and the like.

The group represented by "X" is the partial component of  
5 the bond as following;



wherein,  $\text{R}^1$  to  $\text{R}^{16}$  are hydrogen atom; halogen atom; optionally substituted alkyl group; optionally substituted aryl group; or optionally substituted heterocyclic group.

10

The term "halogen atom" represented by  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^4$ ,  $\text{R}^5$ ,  $\text{R}^6$ ,  $\text{R}^7$ ,  $\text{R}^8$ ,  $\text{R}^9$ ,  $\text{R}^{10}$ ,  $\text{R}^{11}$ ,  $\text{R}^{12}$ ,  $\text{R}^{13}$ ,  $\text{R}^{14}$ ,  $\text{R}^{15}$  and  $\text{R}^{16}$  may include fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

The term "optionally substituted alkyl group" may include  
15 methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl and the like.

Suitable substituent of substituted alkyl group may include optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted heterocyclic group, and therefore, examples of said  
20 substituted alkyl group include benzyl, (2-pyridyl)methyl, (3-pyridyl)methyl, (2-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-methyl, (6-fluoro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl, (2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl, (6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl, (6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl, (5-pyrimidyl)methyl, (3-quinolyl)methyl, (3-furanyl)methyl, (tetrahydro-3-furanyl)methyl, (3-thienyl)-methyl, (3,5-dimethylisoxazolyl)methyl, 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-ethyl, 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl and the like.

The term "optionally substituted aryl group" for the  
30 groups  $\text{R}^1$  to  $\text{R}^{16}$  may be non-substituted phenyl group or phenyl

group which is substituted by halogen atom, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> lower alkyl such as methyl, ethyl and the like, and therefore, examples of substituted phenyl group may include methylphenyl, chlorophenyl, dichlorophenyl and the like.

5 The term "heterocyclic group" for the groups R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>16</sup> may be 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic group containing the same or different 1 to 3 hetero atom(s) such as sulfur, nitrogen, oxygen atom(s), and examples include thiophene, furan, pyran, pyrrole, pyrazole, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, pyridazine, imidazole, 10 oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, quinoline, iso-quinoline, tetrahydropyrimidine and the like.

Suitable substituent of substituted heterocyclic group may include C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> lower alkyl, halogen atom and the like, and therefore, examples of said substituted heterocyclic group may be 15 2-methylpyridine, 3-methylpyridine, 2-chloropyridine, 2-fluoropyridine, 2-bromopyridine, 3-bromopyridine, 2,3-dichloropyridine, 4-chloropyrimidine, 2-chlorothiazole, 3-methylisoxazole and the like.

20 The following are examples of cyclic amidine compounds of the formula (I).

Compound 1: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;  
Compound 2: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
Compound 3: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;  
25 Compound 4: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;  
Compound 5: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methylimidazole;  
Compound 6: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)imidazole;  
Compound 7: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;  
30 Compound 8: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;  
Compound 9: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 10: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 11: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 12: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-4,4-dimethyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 13: 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 14: 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 15: 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 16: 2-(5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 17: 2-(5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 18: 2-(3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 19: 2-(3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 20: 2-(3-aminophenyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 21: 2-(3-quinolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 22: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 23: 2-(3-quinolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 24: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 25: 2-(3-quinolyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 26: 2-(3-furanyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 27: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 28: 2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-isoxazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 29: 2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-isoxazolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 30: 2-(3-thienyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 31: 2-(3-thienyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 32: 2-methyl-5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 33: 5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 34: 1,2-bis[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 35: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

5 Compound 36: 2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 37: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-5-phenyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

10 Compound 38: 2-(4-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 39: 2-(2-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

15 pyrimidine;

Compound 40: 2-(2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 41: 2-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

15 pyrimidine;

Compound 42: 2-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-imidazoline;

Compound 43: 2-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

15 pyrimidine;

Compound 44: 1,2-bis[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-2-imidazoline;

20 Compound 45: 2-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 46: 2-(6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

15 pyrimidine;

Compound 47: 2-(6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 48: 2-(6-fluoro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

25 pyrimidine;

Compound 49: 2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 50: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-5,5-dimethyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 51: 2-(2-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

30 Compound 52: 1-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 53: 2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-2-

imidazoline;

Compound 54: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-4-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 55: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
5 pyrimidine;

Compound 56: 1-(3-pyridazinyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
pyrimidine;

Compound 57: 1-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
pyrimidine;

10 Compound 58: 1-(3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 59: 3-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
1,2,4-triazine;

Compound 60: 2-[1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetra-  
hydropyrimidine;

15 Compound 61: 1-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
pyrimidine;

Compound 62: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-methyl-2-  
imidazoline;

Compound 63: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-4,4-dimethyl-2-  
20 imidazoline;

Compound 64: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetra-  
hydropyrimidine;

Compound 65: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 66: 2-(5-pyrimidyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

25 Compound 67: 2-(5-pyrimidyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 68: 2-(5-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
pyrimidine.

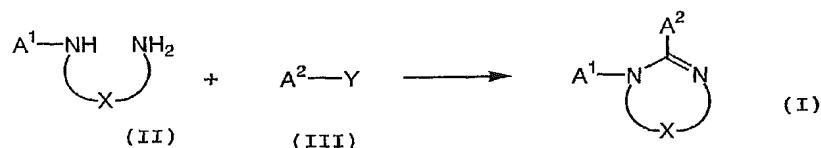
30 The cyclic amidine compounds represented by the formula (I) of the present invention can be prepared in accordance with the various synthetic processes such as following Process 1 to 3.

In the following reaction schemes, the groups A<sup>1</sup>, A<sup>2</sup> and X

have the same meanings mentioned above.

Process 1:

5 In accordance with the following reaction scheme, the compound (I) of the present invention can be obtained by the condensation reaction of the compound of the formula (II) with the compound of the formula (III).



10 wherein, "Y" is  $-\text{COOQ}^1$ ,  $-\text{CONQ}^2\text{Q}^3$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{OQ}^4)_3$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{OQ}^5)=\text{NH}$  or  $-\text{CN}$  (in which  $\text{Q}^1$ ,  $\text{Q}^2$ ,  $\text{Q}^3$ ,  $\text{Q}^4$  and  $\text{Q}^5$  are  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$  lower alkyl); that is, the compound (III) represented by " $\text{A}^2\text{-Y}$ " is carboxylic acid derivative such as ester, amide, orthoester, iminoether or nitrile.

15

The compounds (II) and (III) to be used in this reaction can be commercially available or can be easily prepared from known compounds by using common methods.

20 The reaction of the compound (II) with the compound (III) to obtain the compound (I) can usually be carried out without solvent or in an appropriate solvent such as hydrocarbon solvent, alcohol solvent and ether solvent or the mixture thereof in the presence of acid, a reagent containing sulfur atom or an aluminum reagent if necessary, under the temperature ranging from room 25 temperature to  $300^\circ\text{C}$ . The examples of acid include hydrogen chloride, p-toluenesulfonic acid and the like, and the reagent containing sulfur atom may include sulfur, hydrogen sulfide, carbon disulfide, phosphorus pentasulfide and the like.

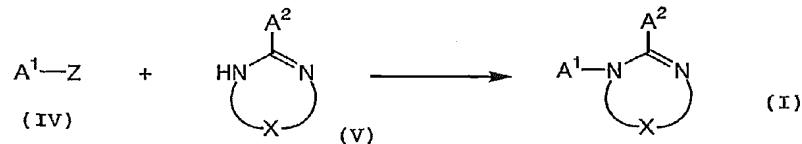
The examples of the hydrocarbon solvent may include

aromatic hydrocarbon such as benzene, toluene and the like, or aliphatic hydrocarbon such as pentane, hexane and the like. The alcohol solvent includes methanol, ethanol, propanol, 2-propanol, 2-methyl-2-propanol ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol and the like. The examples of ether solvent may include diethyl ether, dimethoxyethane, tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane and the like.

5 Examples of the aluminum reagent to be used in the reaction may include trimethylaluminum, triethylaluminum, dimethylaluminum chloride, diethylaluminum chloride, ethyl-  
10 aluminum dichloride and the like.

**Process 2:**

The compound (I) can be obtained by the reaction of the compound (IV) with the compound (V) in accordance with the  
15 following reaction scheme.



wherein, "Z" is leaving group which accelerates the reaction with nitrogen atoms of cyclic amidine compound, such as halogen atom,  
20 p-toluenesulfonyloxy, methanesulfonyloxy, trifluoromethane-  
sulfonyloxy, acyloxy, substituted acyloxy groups and so on.

The compounds (IV) and (V) to be used in this reaction can be commercially available or can be easily prepared from known  
25 compounds by using common methods.

The reaction of the compound (IV) with the compound (V) to obtain the compound (I) can be usually carried out in an appropriate solvent such as alcohol solvent, ketone solvent, nitrile solvent, ester solvent, amide solvent, hydrocarbon

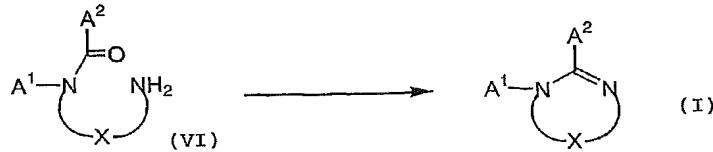
solvent and ether solvent or the mixture thereof in the presence of an organic base or an inorganic base if necessary, under the temperature ranging from -20°C to the refluxing temperature of the solvent to be used.

5 The examples of alcohol solvent include methanol, ethanol, propanol, 2-propanol, 2-methyl-2-propanol and the like. The ketone solvent may include acetone, methyl ethyl ketone and the like. The nitrile solvent may include acetonitrile, propionitrile and so on, and the ester solvent may be ethyl acetate. The examples of amide solvent include N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, hexamethylphosphoramide and the like. The hydrocarbon solvent may include aromatic hydrocarbon such as benzene, toluene and the like, or aliphatic hydrocarbon such as pentane, hexane and the like. The examples of ether solvent may include diethyl ether, dimethoxyethane, tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane and the like.

20 Examples of the organic base to be used in the reaction may include triethylamine, collidine, lutidine, potassium tert-butoxide, sodium amide, lithium diisopropylamide, potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide and the like, and the inorganic base may include potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, sodium hydrogencarbonate, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium hydride, lithium hydride and the like.

25 Process 3:

The compound (I) can be obtained from the compound (VI) by the dehydrating cyclization of the compound (VI) in accordance with the following reaction scheme.



The compound (VI) to be used in this reaction can be prepared in accordance with the known method in this field.

This reaction can generally be carried out without solvent or in an appropriate solvent such as hydrocarbon solvent, 5 halogenated hydrocarbon solvent and ether solvent, or in the mixture solvent thereof, in the presence of a dehydrating reagent if necessary, at the temperature ranging from -50°C to 200°C, preferably from room temperature to 120°C.

The examples of hydrocarbon solvent may include aromatic 10 hydrocarbon such as benzene, toluene and the like, or aliphatic hydrocarbon such as pentane, hexane and the like. The examples of halogenated hydrocarbon solvent may include dichloromethane, chloroform, 1,2-dichloroethane and the like. The ether solvent may include diethyl ether, dimethoxyethane, tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-15 dioxane and the like. The examples of the dehydrating reagent include thionyl chloride, sulfonyl chloride, phosphorus oxychloride, phosphorus trichloride, phosphorus pentachloride, p-toluenesulfonyl chloride, methanesulfonyl chloride, phosgene, diethyl azodicarboxylate, dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and the like.

20

The compound of formula (I) of the present invention thus obtained can be converted to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt with various kinds of the organic or inorganic acids mentioned above, if necessary. Furthermore, the compound (I) of the 25 present invention can also be purified by the conventional manner, such as recrystallization, column chromatography and the like.

When the compounds of the formula (I) of the present invention exist in the isomer forms, each isomer *per se* is separated from each other by the conventional manner. Therefore, 30 it is understood that each isomers *per se*, as well as the isomeric mixture, shall be included in the compounds of the present invention.

The compounds of formula (I) of the present invention bind selectively to nicotinic acetylcholine receptors in central nervous systems, and activate said receptors as agonists or modulators. Therefore, these compounds are useful as medicaments 5 for preventing or treating various diseases, such as dementia, senile dementia, presenile dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, cerebrovascular dementia, AIDS-related dementia, dementia in Down's syndrome, Tourette's syndrome, neurosis during chronic cerebral infarction stage, cerebral 10 dysfunction caused by cerebral injury, anxiety, schizophrenia, depression, Huntington's disease, pain and so on.

The compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to the present invention may be administered in the form of oral or parenteral formulations. The 15 formulations for oral administration may include for example, tablets, capsules, granules, fine powders, syrups or the like; the formulations for parenteral administration may include, for example, injectable solutions or suspensions with distilled water for injection or other pharmaceutically acceptable solution, 20 patches for transdermal application, sprays for nasally administration, depositaries or the like.

These formulations may be formed by mixing with pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, sweetener, stabilizer and so on by the conventional procedures known *per se* 25 to those skilled in the art in the field of pharmaceutical formulations.

Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient include polyvinyl pyrrolidone, gum arabic, gelatin, sorbit, cyclodextrin, magnesium stearate, talc, polyethylene 30 glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, silica, lactose, crystalline cellulose, sugar, starch, calcium phosphate, vegetable oil, carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, sodium lauryl sulfate, water,

ethanol, glycerol, mannitol, syrup and the like.

The solutions for injection may be isotonic solution containing glucose and the like, and these solutions can be further contain an appropriate solubilizer such as polyethylene 5 glycol or the like, buffer, stabilizer, preservative, antioxidant and so on.

These formulations can be administered to the human being and other mammalian animals, and the preferable administration route may include oral route, transdermic route, nasal route, 10 rectal route, topical route or the like.

The administration dose may vary in a wide range with ages, weights, condition of patients, routes of administration or the like, and a usual recommended daily dose to adult patients for oral administration is within the range of approximately 0.001-15 1,000 mg/kg per body weight, preferably 0.01-100 mg/kg per body weight, and more preferably 0.1-10 mg/kg per body weight.

In the case of parenteral administration such as intravenous injections, a usual recommended daily dose is within the range of approximately 0.00001-10 mg/kg per body weight, 20 preferably 0.0001-1 mg/kg per body weight, and more preferably 0.001-0.1 mg/kg per body weight, once or in three times per day.

The methods for evaluating the binding capabilities of the compounds at nicotinic acetylcholine receptors are different by 25 subtypes of receptors. The binding capabilities of the compounds at  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors are examined using rat brain membrane obtained from whole homogenized brain, and determining the inhibiting rate of the compounds against [ $^3$ H]-cytisine binding to said brain membrane. Furthermore, the 30 binding capabilities of the compounds at  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors are examined using homogenized rat muscle, and determining the inhibiting rate of the compounds against

[<sup>3</sup>H]- $\alpha$ -bungarotoxin binding to said muscle homogenate.

The agonist effect in human  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors are examined by using human nicotinic acetylcholine receptors prepared in oocytes of *Xenopus laevis*, 5 which is injected with cRNA from the corresponding cloning cDNA of human  $\alpha 4$  and  $\beta 2$  subunits of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors, and to measure the expression of the electric response by adding the test compounds to perfusion solution by means of membrane potential holding method.

10

Examples:

The present invention is illustrated in more detail by way of the following examples.

15 Example 1: Synthesis by the Process 1

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine

[Compound 8]

To a stirred solution of 20 ml of toluene were added 3.75 ml of 1M trimethylaluminum/hexane solution and 315  $\mu$ l (3.77 mmol) 20 of trimethylenediamine under argon atmosphere at room temperature, and to this mixture was further added 500 mg (2.5 mmol) of ethyl (6-chloro-3-pyridyl)acetate in toluene solution. The mixture was stirred for 22 hours at 100°C under refluxing. After cooling the reaction mixture to room temperature, 5 ml of chloroform, 5 ml of 25 methanol and 1 ml of water were added. Then precipitated gel was removed off by filtration and washed with a mixture of chloroform and methanol (9:1), and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by aminopropyl-coated silica gel (Chromatorex NH-type; Fuji Silyisia 30 Chemical Ltd.) column chromatography (eluent; dichloromethane : ethyl acetate = 30:1, then dichloromethane : methanol = 50:1) to give 442 mg (yield: 84.4%) of 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-

1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine as crystalline. This product was dissolved in methanol and to this solution was added 245 mg (2.11 mmol) of fumaric acid, and the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting oily residue was treated with 5 acetonitrile to give crystalline. The crystalline was collected by filtration and dried in vacuum to give 643 mg of fumarate of the title Compound 8.

The following compounds were synthesized in accordance 10 with the same procedures as described in Example 1.

Compound 1: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 2: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 3: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 4: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro- 15 pyrimidine;

Compound 6: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)imidazole;

Compound 7: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 9: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 10: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetra- 20 hydropyrimidine;

Compound 13: 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro- pyrimidine;

Compound 14: 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 15: 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro- 25 pyrimidine;

Compound 16: 2-(5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro- pyrimidine;

Compound 17: 2-(5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 18: 2-(3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 19: 2-(3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 20: 2-(3-aminophenyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 21: 2-(3-quinolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 22: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 23: 2-(3-quinolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 24: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)-2-imidazoline;

5 Compound 25: 2-(3-quinolyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 26: 2-(3-furanyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 28: 2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-isoxazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 29: 2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-isoxazolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

10 Compound 30: 2-(3-thienyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 31: 2-(3-thienyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 33: 5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

Compound 36: 2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

15 Compound 37: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-5-phenyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 38: 2-(4-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 39: 2-(2-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

20 Compound 40: 2-(2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 41: 2-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 42: 2-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-imidazoline;

25 Compound 43: 2-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 45: 2-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 46: 2-(6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

30 Compound 47: 2-(6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 48: 2-(6-fluoro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 49: 2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 50: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-5,5-dimethyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 51: 2-(2-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

5 Compound 53: 2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 54: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-4-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 59: 3-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-10,2,4-triazine;

Compound 60: 2-[1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 61: 1-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

15 Compound 62: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 63: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-4,4-dimethyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 64: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

20 Compound 65: 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 66: 2-(5-pyrimidyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 67: 2-(5-pyrimidyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 68: 2-(5-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine.

25

Example 2: Synthesis by the Process 2

1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine

[Compound 27]

30 To an ice-cooled solution of 384 mg (4.6 mmol) of 1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine in 5 ml of acetonitrile was added 619 mg (3 mmol) of 5-bromomethyl-2-chloropyridine, and the mixture was

stirred for 15 minutes. After removal of solvent under reduced pressure, 6 ml of the solution of 0.5N potassium hydroxide in ethanol was added to the residue. The insoluble matter was removed off by filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was dissolved in toluene, and the solvent was removed again under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by aminopropyl-coated silica gel (Chromatorex NH-type; Fuji Silysia Chemical Ltd.) column chromatography (eluent; dichloromethane : methanol = 40:1) to give 221 mg (yield; 35.2%) of 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine as colorless oil. This product was dissolved in methanol and to this solution was added 122 mg (1.05 mmol) of fumaric acid, and the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was treated with acetonitrile to give crystalline. The crystalline was collected by filtration and dried in vacuum to give 308 mg of fumarate of the title Compound 27.

The following compounds were synthesized in accordance with the same procedures as described in Example 2.

Compound 5: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methylimidazole;  
Compound 10: 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
Compound 11: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-methyl-2-imidazoline;  
Compound 34: 1,2-bis[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
Compound 35: 1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;  
Compound 44: 1,2-bis[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-2-imidazoline;  
Compound 52: 1-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
Compound 55: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

pyrimidine;

Compound 56: 1-(3-pyridazinyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

Compound 57: 1-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

5

Compound 58: 1-(3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

Compound 61: 1-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrimidine;

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Compound 62: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-methyl-2-imidazoline;

Compound 63: 1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-4,4-dimethyl-2-imidazoline.

Example 3: Synthesis by the Process 3

15 2-Methyl-5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline [Compound 32]

269 mg (1 mmol) of oxalate of N-[2-amino-1-(3-pyridyl)ethyl]acetamide was dissolved in 5 ml of phosphorus oxychloride, and this mixture was heated for 1.5 hours at 100°C under stirring. After cooling the reaction mixture to room 20 temperature, phosphorus oxychloride was removed off under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was treated with ice, and 1N sodium hydroxide aqueous solution was added to adjust the pH of the solution to 7, then, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was treated with ethanol 25 and the insoluble matter was removed off by filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by aminopropyl-coated silica gel (Chromatorex NH-type; Fuji Silysia Chemical Ltd.) column chromatography (eluent; chloroform) to give 22 mg (yield; 13.6%) 30 of 2-methyl-5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline as brownish oil. This product was dissolved in methanol and to this solution was added 15 mg (0.13 mmol) of fumaric acid, and the mixture was

concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting oily residue was treated with a mixture of t-butanol and acetone to give crystalline. The crystalline was collected by filtration and dried in vacuum to give 17 mg of fumarate of the title Compound 5 32.

The physicochemical data of the Compounds 1 to 68 obtained by the above-mentioned examples are summarized in the following Table 1 to Table 14.

TABLE 1:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
1		fumarate	colorless cryst. 170-175°C acetone	m/z 182 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.87 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 8.29 (dd, J=2.4, 8.4Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J=8.4Hz, 1H), 6.56 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 4H)
2		fumarate	colorless cryst. 162-163°C methanol /acetone	m/z 196 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.79 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J=2.5, 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J=8.3Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 2H), 3.49 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 1.94 (m, 2H)
3		fumarate	milky white cryst. 117-120°C ether	m/z 196 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.65 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 2H), 3.84 (m, 2H), 3.70 (m, 2H), 2.89 (s, 3H)
4		oxalate	colorless oil	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	10.26 (br, 1H) 8.66 (d, J=1.8Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J=1.8, 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J=8.3Hz, 1H), 3.57 (t, J=5.6Hz, 2H), 3.43 (t, J=5.3Hz, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.08 (m, 2H)
5		fumarate	colorless cryst. 123-124°C acetone	m/z 194 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.39 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J=4.6Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 6.94 (br, 1H), 6.63 (s, 2H), 5.26 (s, 2H)

TABLE 2:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent.	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR(DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
6		fumarate	colorless cryst. 173-186°C	m/z 180 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	13.0 (br, 3H), 8.94 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 8.30 (dd, J=2.5, 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J=8.3Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 2H), 6.63 (s, 2H)
7		fumarate	colorless cryst. 139-142°C	m/z 196 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	8.42 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J=2.5, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.47 (s, 2H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 4H)
8		fumarate	colorless cryst. 167-172°C	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	8.46 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, J=2.5, 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J=8.3Hz, 1H), 6.45 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 2H), 3.32 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 1.81 (m, 2H)
9		fumarate	colorless cryst. 123-126°C	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	8.43 (br, 1H), 7.86 (dd, J=2.3, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.48 (s, 2H), 4.06 (s, 2H), 3.76 (m, 4H), 3.00 (s, 3H)
10		oxalate	colorless cryst. 85-89°C	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	8.42 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 3.44 (t, J=5.7Hz, 2H), 3.35 (t, J=5.7Hz, 2H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 1.95 (m, 2H)

TABLE 3:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
11		fumarate	colorless cryst. 165-171°C acetone	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.45 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J=2.5, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 2H), 4.63 (s, 2H), 3.73 (m, 2H), 3.63 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H)
12		fumarate	colorless cryst. 166-168°C acetone	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.41 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.86 (dd, J=2.5, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.49 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 3.17 (s, 2H), 1.24 (s, 6H)
13		fumarate	pale yellow cryst. 54-57°C acetone	m/z 155 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	9.9 (br, 1H), 6.43 (s, 2H), 3.88 (m, 2H), 3.72 (m, 2H), 3.31 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 2.21 (m, 1H), 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.84 (quintet, J=5.7Hz, 2H)
14		fumarate	colorless cryst. 103-105°C acetone	m/z 141 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	6.43 (s, 2H), 3.86 (m, 2H), 3.73 (s, 4H), 3.72 (m, 2H), 3.35 (m, 1H), 2.19 (m, 1H), 2.06 (m, 1H)
15		oxalate	colorless cryst. 187-190°C acetone	m/z 169 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	9.71 (br, 2H), 3.74 (m, 2H), 3.64 (m, 1H), 3.32 (m, 4H), 2.44 (m, 4H), 1.99 (m, 1H), 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.54 (m, 1H)

TABLE 4:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
16		fumarate	colorless cryst. 155-159°C	m/z 254 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> <chem>C10H12BrN3</chem>	8.66 (d, J=1.6Hz, 1H), 8.62 (d, J=1.6Hz, 1H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 6.39 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 2H), 3.33 (m, 4H), 1.81 (m, 2H)
17		fumarate	colorless cryst. 150-154°C	m/z 242 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> <chem>C9H10BrN3</chem>	8.63 (s, 1H), 8.53 (s, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 3.65 (s, 4H)
18		fumarate	colorless cryst. 120-124°C ethanol /acetone	m/z 176 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> <chem>C10H13N3</chem>	10.77 (2H, br), 8.62 (1H, s), 8.51 (d, J=4.8Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J=7.6Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J=4.8, 7.6Hz, 1H), 6.42 (s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 2H), 3.33 (m, 4H), 1.81 (m, 2H)
19		fumarate	colorless cryst. 134-135°C	m/z 162 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> <chem>C9H11N3</chem>	8.57 (d, J=2.0Hz, 1H), 8.51 (dd, J=2.0, 4.7Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J=4.7, 7.8Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 4H)
20		fumarate	colorless cryst. 192-195°C	m/z 176 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> <chem>C10H13N3</chem>	7.21 (m, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.81 (m, 2H), 6.37 (s, 2H), 5.54 (br, 2H), 3.45 (m, 4H), 1.95 (m, 2H)

TABLE 5:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
21		fumarate	colorless cryst. 168-171°C acetone	m/z 226 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.94 (s, 1H), 8.38 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d, J=8.4Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J=8.1Hz, 1H), 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.64 (m, 1H), 6.42 (s, 2H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 3.34 (m, 4H), 1.83 (m, 2H)
22		fumarate	colorless cryst. 159-160°C acetone	m/z 202 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub> S	8.03 (s, 1H), 6.56 (s, 2H), 3.34 (m, 4H), 1.76 (m, 2H)
23		fumarate	colorless cryst. 175-177°C acetone	m/z 212 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.88 (s, 1H), 8.31 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d, J=8.4Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J=8.1Hz, 1H), 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.64 (m, 1H), 6.47 (s, 2H), 4.06 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 4H)
24		fumarate	pale yellow cryst. 157-158°C acetone	m/z 188 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub> S	8.02 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 2H), 3.62 (s, 4H)
25		fumarate	colorless cryst. 188-193°C acetone	m/z 212 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	9.16 (d, J=2.2Hz, 1H), 8.82 (d, J=2.2Hz, 1H), 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.76 (m, 1H), 6.38 (s, 2H), 3.55 (m, 4H), 2.00 (m, 2H)

TABLE 6:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
26		fumarate	colorless cryst. 200-205°C	m/z 151 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> $C_8H_{10}N_2O$	7.66 (s, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 6.41 (s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 4H), 3.69 (s, 2H)
27		fumarate	colorless cryst. 126-129°C	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> $C_{10}H_{12}ClN_3$	8.47 (m, 2H), 7.92 (dd, J=2.5, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 3.25 (m, 4H), 1.88 (m, 2H)
28		fumarate	colorless cryst. 188-190°C	m/z 194 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> $C_{10}H_{15}N_3O$	10.37 (br, 2H), 6.39 (s, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.32 (m, 4H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.83 (m, 2H)
29		fumarate	colorless cryst. 208-215°C	m/z 180 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> $C_9H_{13}N_3O$	6.43 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 4H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H)
30		fumarate	colorless cryst. 85-90°C	m/z 181 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> $C_9H_{12}N_2S$	7.55 (d, J=4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.13 (d, J=4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 3.33 (m, 4H), 1.83 (m, 2H)

TABLE 7:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
31		fumarate	colorless cryst. 150-153°C acetone	m/z 167 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> S	7.55 (d, J=4.8Hz, 1H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, J=4.8Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 4H)
32		fumarate	pale brown cryst. 130-132°C t-butanol /acetone	m/z 162 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>11</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.60 (s, 1H), 8.57 (m, 1H), 7.81 (d, J=6.8Hz, 1H), 7.45 (m, 1H), 6.48 (s, 2H), 5.33 (m, 1H), 4.23 (m, 1H), 3.64 (m, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H)
33		fumarate	colorless cryst. 148-149°C ethanol /acetone	m/z 148 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>9</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.56 (m, 2H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J=7.0Hz, 1H), 7.43 (m, 1H), 6.54 (s, 2H), 5.24 (m, 1H), 4.15 (m, 1H), 3.55 (m, 1H)
34		fumarate	pale brown cryst. 135-139°C acetonitrile	m/z 335 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>16</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	8.40 (d, J=2.3Hz, 1H), 8.20 (s, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J=2.3, 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 7.47 (m, 2H), 6.47 (s, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 4.23 (s, 2H), 3.42 (t, J=5.4Hz, 2H), 3.34 (t, J=5.3Hz, 2H), 1.96 (m, 2H)
35		fumarate	pale brown cryst. 164-166°C acetone	m/z 273 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>13</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub>	8.76 (d, J=1.8Hz, 1H), 8.71 (dd, J=1.5, 4.8Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J=1.5, 1.8, 7.8Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J=4.8, 7.8Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.58 (s, 2H), 4.32 (s, 2H), 3.83 (t, J=10.0Hz, 2H), 3.45 (t, J=10.0Hz, 2H)

TABLE 8:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
36		fumarate	colorless cryst. 198-200°C acetone	m/z 244 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.31 (d, J=2.1Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, J=2.1Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 3.43 (m, 4H), 1.99 (m, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
37		fumarate	colorless cryst. 163-168°C acetone	m/z 286 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>16</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	8.49 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 7.30 (m, 5H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 3.57 (m, 2H), 3.45 (m, 2H), 3.08 (m, 1H)
38		fumarate	colorless cryst. 141-143°C acetone	m/z 176 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.55 (d, J=5.8Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, J=5.8Hz, 2H), 6.48 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 3.34 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 1.83 (m, 2H)
39		fumarate	colorless cryst. 160-161°C acetone	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> CIN <sub>3</sub>	8.38 (dd, J=1.7, 4.8Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J=1.7, 7.6Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J=4.8, 7.6Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 3.35 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 1.87 (m, 2H)
40		fumarate	colorless cryst. 175-177°C acetone	m/z 244 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	7.86 (d, J=8.0Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J=8.0Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 3.45 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 2.02 (m, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD

TABLE 9:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
41		fumarate	colorless cryst. 156-157°C acetone	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.28 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 2H), 3.41 (t, J=5.5Hz, 4H), 3.02 (t, J=7.6Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t, J=7.6Hz, 2H), 1.95 (m, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
42		fumarate	colorless cryst. 148-149°C acetone	m/z 210 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.27 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J=8.0Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J=8.0Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 4H), 3.02 (br, 2H), 2.86 (br, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
43		fumarate	colorless cryst. 156-158°C 2-propanol /acetone	m/z 190 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.46 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, J=7.9Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J=7.9Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 3.31 (m, 4H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.80 (m, 2H)
44		fumarate	milky white cryst. 162-164°C 2-propanol	m/z 321 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>17</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	8.38 (d, J=2.0Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J=2.0, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.68 (m, 2H), 3.47 (m, 2H)
45		fumarate	colorless cryst. 165-166°C acetone	m/z 176 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.42 (d, J=2.2Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J=2.2, 8.0Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J=8.0Hz, 1H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 4H), 2.44 (s, 3H)

TABLE 10:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
46		fumarate	colorless cryst. 110-112°C acetone	m/z 220 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O	8.16 (d, J=2.3Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J=2.3, 8.5Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J=8.5Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 2H), 4.28 (q, J=7.0Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 3.31 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t, J=7.0Hz, 3H)
47		fumarate	colorless cryst. 170-171°C acetone	m/z 206 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O	8.12 (d, J=2.2Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, J=2.2, 8.5Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J=8.5Hz, 1H), 6.42 (s, 2H), 4.27 (q, J=7.0Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 4H), 1.30 (t, J=7.0Hz, 3H)
48		fumarate	pale yellow cryst. 136-139°C acetone	m/z 194 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> FN <sub>3</sub>	8.27 (s, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J=2.3, 8.2, 8.4Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J=8.4, 2.7Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 3.32 (t, J=5.7, 4H), 1.81 (m, 2H)
49		fumarate	colorless cryst. 176-178°C acetone	m/z 230 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.37 (s, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 6.46 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 3.66 (s, 4H)
50		fumarate	pale yellow cryst. 143-145°C acetone	m/z 238 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.37 (s, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 2H), 3.13 (s, 4H), 1.02 (s, 6H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD

TABLE 11:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
51		fumarate	milky white cryst. 120-122°C acetone	m/z 176 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.56 (d, J=4.7Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, J=7.0, 7.8Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, J=4.7, 7.0Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 3.46 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 2.01 (q, J=5.7Hz, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
52		fumarate	colorless cryst. 185-186°C acetone	m/z 244 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.37 (d, J=2.1Hz, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 8.10 (q, J=2.1Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 4.70 (s, 2H), 3.31 (m, 4H), 2.04 (m, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
53		fumarate	colorless cryst. 152°C acetone	m/z 244 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.36 (d, J=2.1Hz, 1H), 8.06 (q, J=11.5Hz, 2H), 3.80 (t, J=11.5Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t, J=11.5Hz, 2H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 3.20 (s, 3H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
54		fumarate	colorless cryst. 157°C acetone	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.37 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.51 (m, 1H), 6.70 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 3.69 (m, 1H), 3.45 (m, 2H), 2.11 (m, 1H), 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.34 (m, 3H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
55		fumarate	pale yellow cryst. 138-143°C acetone	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.34 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J=8.1Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J=8.1Hz, 1H), 6.37 (s, 2H), 3.67 (t, J=6.9Hz, 2H), 3.42 (m, 2H), 3.22 (m, 2H), 2.95 (t, J=6.9Hz, 2H), 1.89 (m, 2H)

TABLE 12:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
56		fumarate (1.5 molecules)	colorless cryst. 124-125°C acetone	m/z 177 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	9.22 (s, 1H), 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 3H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 3.48 (t, J=5.5Hz, 2H), 3.43 (t, J=5.5Hz, 2H), 2.11 (t, J=5.5Hz, 2H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD
57		fumarate (2 molecules)	colorless cryst. 156-157°C acetone	m/z 190 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.48 (s, 2H), 7.72 (d, J=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J=7.8Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 4H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 3.25 (m, 4H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.87 (m, 2H)
58		fumarate (2 molecules)	colorless cryst. 141-142°C acetone	m/z 176 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	8.62 (s, 1H), 8.58 (d, J=4.8Hz, 1H), 8.49 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, J=7.7Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d,d, J=4.8, 7.7Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 4H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 3.25 (m, 4H), 1.87 (m, 2H)
59		hydrochloride (2 molecules)	yellow cryst. 134-140°C acetone	m/z 211 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub>	11.46 (br, 1H), 10.21 (br, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 5.94 (br, 1H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 3.38 (m, 2H), 3.00 (m, 2H)
60		fumarate	colorless cryst. 156-158°C acetone	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.37 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d,d, J=2.5, 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J=2.3Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 4.04 (o, J=7.2Hz, 1H), 3.45 (t, J=5.7Hz, 4H), 1.98 (quintet, J=5.7Hz, 2H), 1.63 (d, J=7.2Hz, 3H) in CD <sub>3</sub> OD

TABLE 13:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
61		fumarate	colorless cryst. 133-134°C acetone	m/z 216 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> ClN <sub>2</sub> S	8.11 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 2H), 6.41 (s, 2H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 3.35 (m, 4H), 1.77 (m, 2H)
62		fumarate	colorless cryst. 144-146°C acetone	m/z 224 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	8.38 (d, J=2.1Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dd, J=2.1, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 2H), 3.75 (m, 4H), 3.59 (t, J=7.2Hz, 2H), 2.91 (t, J=7.2Hz, 2H), 2.09 (s, 3H)
63		hydrochloride (2 molecules)	colorless cryst. 158-162°C acetone	m/z 238 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> ClN <sub>3</sub>	10.34 (1H, s), 8.36 (d, J=2.4Hz, 1H), 8.28 (1H, s), 7.81 (dd, J=2.4, 8.2Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J=8.2Hz, 1H), 3.74 (t, J=6.8Hz, 4H), 3.62 (s, 2H), 2.97 (t, J=6.8Hz, 2H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H)
64		hydrochloride (2 molecules)	colorless cryst. 213-220°C acetone	m/z 216 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> ClN <sub>2</sub> S	10.06 (s, 2H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 3.32 (m, 4H), 1.82 (m, 2H)
65		fumarate	yellow cryst. 148-150°C acetone	m/z 202 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ClN <sub>2</sub> S	7.58 (s, 1H), 6.49 (s, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 3.65 (s, 4H)

TABLE 14:

No.	Chemical Structure	Salt	Properties m.p. (°C) crystallized solvent	Mass Spectrum found molecular formula <sup>a</sup>	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )
66		fumarate	colorless cryst. 151-156°C acetone	m/z 177 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	9.13 (s, 1H), 8.85 (s, 2H), 6.43 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 3.33 (m, 4H), 1.82 (m, 2H)
67		fumarate	colorless cryst. 155-156°C acetone	m/z 163 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	9.12 (s, 1H), 8.80 (s, 2H), 6.46 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 4H)
68		fumarate	colorless cryst. 137-139°C acetone	m/z 190 = (M+H) <sup>+</sup> C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	10.42 (s, 2H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 6.47 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 1H), 3.33 (m, 4H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.81 (m, 2H)

The effect of the compounds (I) of the present invention was evaluated by the following biological experiments.

Biological Experiment 1:

5 Binding assays at  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

The affinity of the compounds of the present invention to  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors was performed by the following method, which was modified method described by 10 Pabreza L. A., Dhawan S. & Kellar K. J., *Mol. Pharm.*, 39, 9-12 (1990), and by Anderson D. J. & Arneric S. P., *Eur. J. Pharm.*, 253, 261-267 (1994).

(1) Preparation of rat brain membrane containing  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

15 Fischer-344 strain male rats (body weight: 200-240 g; 9 weeks old) obtained from Charles River Japan were used. Rats were housed in the breeding cage controlled of the room temperature at  $23 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ , and the humidity of  $55 \pm 5\%$  for 1 to 4 weeks. Rats (3 to 4 rats per a cage) were housed with lights on 20 for 12 hours daily (from 7:00 to 19:00), and allowed free access to food and water.

Preparation of rat brain membrane containing  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors was performed as follow. That is, rat brains were isolated just after sacrificed by 25 decapitation, washed with ice-cooled saline solution and then frozen at  $-80^\circ\text{C}$  with liquid nitrogen and stored till using. After thawing the frozen brain, the brain was homogenized in 10 volumes of ice-cooled buffer solution (50 mM of Tris-HCl, 120 mM of NaCl, 5 mM of KCl, 1 mM of  $\text{MgCl}_2$ , 2mM of  $\text{CaCl}_2$ ; pH 7.4;  $4^\circ\text{C}$ ) using 30 homogenizer (HG30, Hitachi Kohki Ltd.) for 30 seconds, and the homogenate were centrifuged under  $1,000 \times G$  for 10 minutes at  $4^\circ\text{C}$ . The resulting supernatant was separated and the pellet was

homogenized again with half volume of aforementioned prior buffer solution and centrifuged under the same conditions. Combined supernatant was further centrifuged under 40,000 x G for 20 minutes at 4°C. The pellet was suspended in buffer solution and 5 used for binding assays at receptors.

(2) Experiments of  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors binding

Suspensions of membrane pellets containing 400-600  $\mu$ g of 10 protein were added to test tubes containing test compounds and [ $^3$ H]-cytisine (2 nM) in a final volume of 200  $\mu$ l and incubated for 75 minutes in ice-cooled bath. The samples were isolated by vacuum filtration onto Whatman GF/B filters, which were prerinse with 0.5% polyethylenimine just prior to sample filtration, using 15 Brandel multi manifold cell harvester. The filters were rapidly washed with buffer solution (3 x 1 ml). The filters were counted in 3 ml of clearsol I (Nacalai Tesque Inc.). The determination of nonspecific binding was incubated in the presence of 10  $\mu$ M (-)-nicotine.

20 The analyses of the experimental results were conducted by using the Accufit Competition Program (Beckman Ltd.).

Biological Experiment 2:

Binding assays at  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

25 The affinity of the compounds of the present invention to  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors was measured by the following method, which was modified method described by Garcha H. S., Thomas P., Spivak C. E., Wonnacott S. & Stolerman I. 30 P., *Psychopharmacology*, 110, 347-354 (1993).

(1) Preparation of rat skeletal muscles containing  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

The substantially same animals described in the Biological Experiment 1 were used.

The isolation of  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors was performed as follow. That is, rat posterior skeletal muscles were isolated just after sacrificed by decapitation, washed with ice-cooled saline solution and then frozen at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  with liquid nitrogen and stored till using. After thawing the frozen muscles, tissue was homogenized (40% w/v) with buffer solution [2.5 mM of sodium phosphate buffer (pH:7.2), 90 mM of NaCl, 2 mM of KCl, 1 mM of EDTA, 2 mM of benzamidine, 0.1 mM of benzethonium chloride, 0.1 mM of PMSF, 0.01% of sodium azide] in Waring blender (Waring blender 34BL97; WARING PRODUCTS DIVISION DYNAMICS CORPORATION OF AMERICA) for 60 seconds. The homogenate were centrifuged under 20,000 x G for 60 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant was separated and the resulting pellet was added to the same buffer (1.5 ml/g wet weight), and homogenized under the same conditions. Triton X100 (2% w/v) was added and the mixture was stirred for 3 hours at 4°C. The centrifugation at 100,000 x G for 60 minutes at 4°C yielded the rat muscle extract as supernatant. This was stored at 4°C for up to 4 weeks, and used for binding assays at receptors.

(2) Experiments of  $\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors binding

Receptors binding experiments were performed as follow. That is, the extract of rat muscle containing 600-900  $\mu\text{g}$  of protein was added to test tubes containing test compounds and incubated for 15 minutes at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Then, to this mixture was added 1 nM of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]- $\alpha$ -bungarotoxin ( $\alpha$ -Bgt) and further incubated for 2 hours. The samples were isolated by vacuum filtration onto Whatman GF/B filters, which were prerinse with 0.5% polyethylenimine just prior to sample filtration, using Brandel

multi manifold cell harvester. The filters were rapidly rinsed with washing solution (10 mM of KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 150 mM of NaCl, pH 7.2, room temperature) (5 x 1 ml). The filters were counted in 3 ml of clearsol I (Nacalai Tesque Inc.). The determination of nonspecific binding was incubated in the presence of 1  $\mu$ M  $\alpha$ -Bgt. The solutions containing  $\alpha$ -Bgt (labeled/non-labeled) were prepared by using buffer solution containing 0.25% of BSA. In the receptor binding experiments, said buffer solution was added for adjusting the final concentration of BSA to be 0.05%.

10 The analyses of the experimental results were conducted by the same way as described in the Biological Experiment 1.

15 Table 15 shows the results of receptor binding studies of the compounds of the present invention and (-)-nicotine as reference compound.

TABLE 15:

Compound No.	Affinities for receptors Ki	
	$\alpha 4\beta 2$	$\alpha 1\beta 1\gamma\delta$ *1
2	13 nM	(34%, 6%)
3	45 nM	(34%, 5%)
4	67 nM	(46%, 16%)
7	86 nM	(80%, 51%)
8	29 nM	395 $\mu$ M
9	7.7 nM	(43%, 16%)
10	11 nM	(40%, 17%)
11	115 nM	(74%, 53%)
12	268 nM	(79%, 42%)
15	950 nM	n.d.
16	392 nM	(63%, 30%)
18	86 nM	(62%, 18%)
19	144 nM	(69%, 29%)
22	429 nM	(23%, -4%)
25	338 nM	(41%, 7%)
27	2 nM	45 $\mu$ M
32	580 nM	(69%, 53%)
33	365 nM	n.d.
36	124 nM	(81%, 34%)
43	167 nM	(71%, 28%)
48	82 nM	257 $\mu$ M
49	211 nM	773 $\mu$ M
52	1.2 nM	23 $\mu$ M
53	10 nM	83 $\mu$ M
54	108 nM	1739 $\mu$ M
57	12 nM	86 $\mu$ M
58	6.9 nM	32 $\mu$ M
62	70 nM	639 $\mu$ M
64	8.1 nM	23 $\mu$ M
65	53 nM	524 $\mu$ M
66	90 nM	841 $\mu$ M
68	203 nM	231 $\mu$ M
Nicotine	1.6 nM	182 $\mu$ M

\*1: Values indicated in a parenthesis show control % of [<sup>3</sup>H]- $\alpha$ -Bgt binding at 100  $\mu$ M and 1,000  $\mu$ M of test compounds.

5 n.d.: not determined.

Biological Experiment 3:Agonist activities at human  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

The agonist activities of the compounds of the present invention at human  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors was evaluated by the following method, which was modified method described by Papke R. L., Thinschmidt J. S., Moulton B. A., Meyer E. M. & Poirier A., *Br. J. Pharmacol.*, 120, 429-438 (1997).

10 (1) Preparation of cRNA of human  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

The cloning of human nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (hnACh-R)  $\alpha 4$  cDNA and hnAC-R  $\beta 2$  cDNA were performed, in accordance with the conventional manners, by synthesizing the 15 each DNA primers corresponding to the sequences of hnACh-R  $\alpha 4$  cDNA and hnACh-R  $\beta 2$  cDNA [Monteggia L. M. et al., *Gene*, 155, 189-193 (1995); and Anand R., & Lindstrom J., *Nucl. Acids Res.*, 18, 4272 (1990)], and obtained hnACh-R  $\alpha 4$  cDNA and hnACh-R  $\beta 2$  cDNA by polymerase chain reaction (PCR), respectively. The obtained 20 hnACh-R  $\alpha 4$  cDNA and hnACh-R  $\beta 2$  cDNA were inserted to the cRNA expression vector (pSP64 polyA) having SP6 RNA promoter to construct hnACh-R  $\alpha 4$ /pSP64 polyA and hnACh-R  $\beta 2$ /pSP64 polyA, respectively. After cutting from expression vector by restriction enzyme (EcoRI), transcription was performed by 25 affecting SP6 RNA polymerase in the presence of cap analogues to obtain hnACh-R  $\alpha 4$  cRNA and hnACh-R  $\beta 2$  cRNA, respectively.

30 (2) Expression of human  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  subtype nicotinic acetylcholine receptors in *Xenopus* oocytes

Oocytes were purchased from Kitanihonseibutsukyohzai Co., Ltd., which were already enucleated from *Xenopus laevis*, and used in this experiment.

The oocytes were treated with collagenase (Sigma type I; 1 mg/ml) in calcium-free modified Birth's solution (88 mM of NaCl, 1 mM of KCl, 2.4 mM of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 0.82 mM of MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 15 mM of HEPES, pH 7.6) under gently stirring at room temperature for 90 minutes, 5 and washed out the enzyme from the tissue. Then, oocytes were separated from ovarian follicle by tweezers, and isolated oocytes were placed in antibiotics containing modified Birth's solution (88 mM of NaCl, 1 mM of KCl, 2.4 mM of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 0.82 mM of MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 15 mM of HEPES, pH 7.6, and 0.1 v/v% of mixture solution 10 containing of penicillin and streptomycin for incubation; Sigma Co.). Thus treated oocytes were injected with 50 nl of adjusted cRNAs (1.0 mg/ml), that is, each 50 ng of hnACh-R  $\alpha$ 4 cRNA and hnACh-R  $\beta$ 2 cRNA per 1 oocyte by using automatic injector (NANOJECT; DRUMMOND SCIENTIFIC CO.), and further incubated for 4- 15 14 days at 19°C. In oocytes, heterogeneous quintuple  $[(\alpha 4)_2(\beta 2)_3]$  was composed by translation of injected cRNAs, and ion channel receptors were constructed on cell membrane.

20 (3) Agonist activities at human  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 2 subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors

The recordings of responses at human  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 2 subtype of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors by means of membrane potential holding method were performed as follow. That is, oocytes were placed in recording chamber with a total volume of 50  $\mu$ l and were 25 perfused with Ringer's solution (115 mM of NaCl, 2.5 mM of KCl, 1.8 mM of CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM of HEPES, pH 7.3) containing atropine (1  $\mu$ M) under flow rate of 1 ml/min. The membrane electric potentials were held at -50 mV by mean of the two electric membranes potential holding method (CEZ-1250; Nihon Kohden Co.). Test 30 compounds were added to the perfusion solution, and recorded the peak strength of induced inward current. In order to normalize the responses of test compounds, the responses with acetylcholine

(Ach) were recorded before and after application of the test compounds. Generally in the oocytes just after isolated, the response of intrinsic muscarinic acetylcholine receptors, which is inward current caused by activation of calcium dependence 5 chloride ion channels with increase of the intracellular calcium concentration by stimulation of receptors, is observed. However, the complete disappearances of these responses were confirmed when treated with collagenase or added 1  $\mu$ M of atropine. Furthermore, the oocytes without injection of cRNAs showed no 10 responses by Ach after treatment with collagenase. Therefore, the responses observed in oocytes with injection of hnACh-R  $\alpha$ 4 cRNA and hnACh-R  $\beta$ 2 cRNA, i.e., the inward current induced by the intracellular influx of sodium ion according to the stimulation of receptors, would be the freshly observed responses of human 15  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 2 subtype nicotinic acetylcholine receptors.

Table 16 shows the results of the agonist activity test of the compounds in the present invention and (-)-nicotine as reference compound.

TABLE 16:

Compound No.	Agonist activity (ED50) <sup>*1</sup>
2	3.4 $\mu$ M
3	43.8 $\mu$ M
22	(13.2%)
27	(18.0%)
45	(12.0%)
57	(9.1%)
58	(27.9%)
62	(9.6%)
nicotine	11.4 $\mu$ M

<sup>\*1</sup>: These date are calculated in comparison with the reaction with 10  $\mu$ M of acetylcholine (100%). Values indicated in a parenthesis show control % by response at 100  $\mu$ M of the test compounds.

The following are Formulation Examples of the compounds (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to the 10 present invention

Formulation Example 1 (Tablets):

Compound 2 (Fumarate)	25 g
Lactose	130 g
Crystalline cellulose	20 g
Corn starch	20 g
3% aqueous solution of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose	100 mL
Magnesium stearate	2 g

Fumarate of Compound 2, lactose, crystalline cellulose and 20 corn starch were screened through a 60-mesh sieve, homogenized and charged into a kneader. A 3% aqueous solution of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose was added to the homogeneous mixture and the mixture was further kneaded. The product was granulated by a 16-mesh sieve, dried in air at 50°C, and again granulated by

a 16-mesh sieve. Magnesium stearate was added to the granule and mixed again. The mixture was tabletted to produce tablets weighing 200 mg each and having an 8 mm diameter.

5 Formulation Example 2 (Capsules):

Compound 3 (Fumarate)	25.0 g
Lactose	125.0 g
Corn starch	48.5 g
Magnesium stearate	1.5 g

10 The above components were finely pulverized and thoroughly mixed to produce a homogeneous mixture. The mixture was filled in gelatin capsules, 200 mg per capsule, to obtain capsules.

Formulation Example 3 (Injection):

15 The fumarate of Compound 58 was filled in an amount of 250 mg in a vial and mixed in situ with approximately 4-5 ml of injectable distilled water to make an injectable solution.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

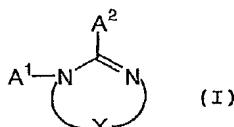
20 As described above, the compounds of the present invention possess high affinity for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptor of central nervous systems and activate said  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptor as agonists or modulators. Therefore, the compounds of the present invention are useful for preventing or 25 treating various kinds of diseases, which may be prevented or cured by activating nicotinic acetylcholine receptors.

Especially, the activators for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors of the present invention are useful for preventing or treating various diseases such as dementia, senile 30 dementia, presenile dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, cerebrovascular dementia, AIDS-related dementia, dementia in Down's syndrome, Tourette's syndrome, neurosis during

the chronic cerebral infarction stage, cerebral dysfunction caused by cerebral injury, anxiety, schizophrenia, depression, Huntington's disease, pain and so on.

## CLAIMS

1. Cyclic amidine compounds represented by the following formula (I):



wherein:

A<sup>1</sup> and A<sup>2</sup> are hydrogen atom, optionally substituted alkyl group; optionally substituted aryl group; or optionally substituted heterocyclic group; and

10 X is -C(R<sup>1</sup>,R<sup>2</sup>)-C(R<sup>3</sup>,R<sup>4</sup>)-, -C(R<sup>5</sup>)=C(R<sup>6</sup>)-, -C(R<sup>7</sup>,R<sup>8</sup>)-C(R<sup>9</sup>,R<sup>10</sup>)-C(R<sup>11</sup>,R<sup>12</sup>)-, or -C(R<sup>13</sup>,R<sup>14</sup>)-C(R<sup>15</sup>,R<sup>16</sup>)-NH- (wherein, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>10</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> are hydrogen atom; halogen atom; optionally substituted alkyl group; optionally substituted aryl group; or optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

15 or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. The following compounds represented by the formula (I) of claim 1:

20 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methylimidazole;

25 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)imidazole;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-1,4,5,6-

tetrahydropyrimidine;

1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-methyl-2-imidazoline;

1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-4,4-dimethyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

5 2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)-2-imidazoline;

2-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(5-bromo-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

10 2-(3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(3-aminophenyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(3-quinolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(3-quinolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

15 2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)-2-imidazoline;

2-(3-quinolyl)-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(3-furanyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-isoxazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-

20 pyrimidine;

2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-isoxazolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-(3-thienyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(3-thienyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;

2-methyl-5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

25 5-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

1,2-bis[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-(3-pyridyl)-2-imidazoline;

2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

30 2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-5-phenyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(4-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;

2-(2-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-(2,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-imidazoline;  
5 2-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
1,2-bis[(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl]-2-imidazoline;  
2-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;  
2-(6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-(6-ethoxy-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;  
10 2-(6-fluoro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;  
2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-5,5-dimethyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
pyrimidine;  
2-(2-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
15 1-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-(5,6-dichloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1-methyl-2-imidazoline;  
2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-4-methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-  
pyrimidine;  
1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
20 1-(3-pyridazinyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
1-(6-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
1-(3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
3-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-1,2,4-triazine;  
2-[1-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
25 1-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-2-methyl-2-imidazoline;  
1-[2-(6-chloro-3-pyridyl)ethyl]-4,4-dimethyl-2-imidazoline;  
2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-(2-chloro-5-thiazolyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;  
30 2-(5-pyrimidyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine;  
2-(5-pyrimidyl)methyl-2-imidazoline;  
2-(5-methyl-3-pyridyl)methyl-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyrimidine.

and pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. Activators for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors containing the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof claimed in claim 1 or 2, as active ingredient.

4. The activators for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors according to claim 3, wherein said activators are agonists or modulators at  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors.

10

5. A medicament for preventing or treating cerebral circulation diseases comprising the activator for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors claimed in claim 3 or 4.

15

6. A medicament for preventing or treating neurodegenerative disease, dementia, motor ataxia, and neuropathy and mental disease comprising the activator for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors claimed in claim 3 or 4.

20

7. The medicament according to claim 6, wherein said neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's disease, said dementia is cerebrovascular dementia, said motor ataxia is Tourette's syndrome, and said neuropathy and mental disease is neurosis during the chronic cerebral infarction stage, anxiety or schizophrenia.

25

8. A medicament for improving the cerebral metabolism, neurotransmission functional disorder and memory disorder, for protecting brain, or having analgesic effect, which comprises the activator for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors claimed in claim 3 or 4.

30

9. A medicament for preventing or treating inflammatory intestinal diseases comprising the activator for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors claimed in claim 3 or 4.

5 10. The use of the compounds claimed in claim 1 or 2 as the activators for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptors.

11. The method of preventing or treating cerebral circulation diseases which comprises administering activators for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$   
10 nicotinic acetylcholine receptors claimed in claim 3 or 4.

12. The method of preventing or treating neurodegenerative diseases, dementia, motor ataxia, and neuropathy and mental disease which comprises administering activators for  $\alpha 4\beta 2$   
15 nicotinic acetylcholine receptors claimed in claim 3 or 4.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein said neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's disease, said dementia is cerebrovascular dementia, said motor  
20 ataxia is Tourette's syndrome, and said neuropathy and mental disease is neurosis during the chronic cerebral infarction stage, anxiety or schizophrenia.